



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Black Hills National Forest
Bearlodge Ranger District

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File Code: 1950-3
Date: April 27, 2010



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Greetings,

The Bearlodge Ranger District of the Black Hills National Forest has completed analysis of the proposed Rattlesnake Forest Management Project. I have decided to implement alternative B with modifications. This decision excludes the Sand Creek Inventoried Roadless Area. Planned activities, modifications, and reasons for my decision are described in the record of decision.

The record of decision and final environmental impact statement (EIS) are available on request and can be found at:

<http://fs.usda.gov/blackhills/> (follow the "Land and Resources Management" and "Project" links)

A notice of availability of the draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on October 9, 2009. This initiated the official public comment period on the draft EIS. The comment period ended on November 23, 2009. Fifty-one individuals, groups, and agencies submitted comments on the draft EIS. Comments and agency responses are located in FEIS appendix D.

The appeal period for this decision will begin when the legal notice is published in the Rapid City Journal. I expect the notice to be published on or about May 7, 2010. For further information, please contact Elizabeth Krueger of my staff at the above address.

Thank you for your interest in management of the Black Hills National Forest.

Sincerely,



STEVEN J. KOZEL
District Ranger

